



NEWS RELEASE

The Kentucky National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project

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Students recognized for outstanding energy projects

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WHO: Kentucky's most energy educated students and their energized teachers

WHAT: The Kentucky Youth Awards for Energy Achievement

WHERE: Frankfort, Kentucky, May 6, 2008

Frankfort, KY – Although energy prices may be going up, Kentucky students are helping energy consumption go down. Schools across the state took on the Kentucky NEED Project's challenge to educate their peers and their communities about energy. Thirteen schools and one school district took the challenge. From teaching people about the energy saving features of a compact fluorescent light bulb to monitoring how long their school buses were idling with the motors running—students are making a difference.

For their outstanding energy education projects, these schools were invited to the Kentucky NEED (National Energy Education Development) Youth Awards Ceremony in Frankfort on May 6 to be recognized.

Beechgrove Elementary	Independence, Kentucky
Campbell County High School	Alexandria, Kentucky
Caywood Elementary	Edgewood, Kentucky
Ft. Wright Elementary	Fort Wright, Kentucky
Kenton County School District	Kenton County, Kentucky
Phillip Sharp Middle School	Butler, Kentucky
Picadome Elementary	Lexington, Kentucky
Piner Elementary	Morning View, Kentucky
River Ridge Elementary	Villa Hills, Kentucky
Russell Area Technology Center	Russell, Kentucky
Somerset High School	Somerset, Kentucky
Twenhofel Middle School	Independence, Kentucky
West Hardin Middle School	Cecilia, Kentucky
White's Tower Elementary	Independence, Kentucky

First Lady Jane Beshear attended the event, viewing each of the winning projects—including a wind turbine built by the Russell Area Technology Center, and a light board Kenton County students used to demonstrate energy savings of a CFL bulb.

Senator Katie Stine praised the students in her key note address and stressed that they are the future of the commonwealth. The work they are doing now will pave the way for a more energy-efficient commonwealth in the years to come.

These Kentucky award-winning projects were submitted to the national NEED office for evaluation. The National Awards Review Panel, composed of leaders from the energy, education, and government sectors reviewed student energy projects from NEED's regional and state offices. The winners will be recognized on June 23, 2008, at the United States Department of the Interior 1849 C Street, N.W. in Washington D.C. Two Kentucky projects will receive national honors at the ceremony. The Somerset High School NEED Team was selected the National Rookie of the Year Project at the Senior Level and the Kenton County Energy WISE Program was selected as the National District of the Year.

The Kentucky NEED Project is the state affiliate of The NEED Project, a nonprofit organization with programs in 45 states. NEED has developed innovative materials and implemented programs that not only teach about energy, but also develop leadership and critical thinking skills. NEED's *Kids Teaching Kids* philosophy encourages students to take responsibility for their own learning and that of others. NEED is sponsored by both renewable and nonrenewable energy companies, federal, state and local agencies, energy consumers and by national and state energy and education associations.

For more information about the Kentucky NEED Project and the Awards Program or any of the award winners mentioned here, please contact Karen Reagor at (859) 578-0312 or via email to kreagor@need.org.

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